BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

Phil Zeinert, CGCS Elgin Country Club

The following are highlights of the MAGCS Board of Directors meeting held Tuesday, July 1 at Bartlett Hills Golf Course. Full meeting minutes, once approved, are available on the Midwest Web

site.

- The Editorial Committee reported being busy with a survey that will guide the content and appearance of the *On Course* magazine in the future. Response rate has been satisfactory and possible changes will be implemented as dictated by the responses.
- The Board approved accounts payable for the month of June in the amount of \$14,917.04.
- Discussion occurred over the "no nonmembers" policy currently in place for monthly golf meetings. At present, none of the meetings are selling out. A motion was made to allow guests to participate in certain

People Make The Difference (continued from page 5)

representatives, from educators to Board members, indeed all MAGCS members. We have a wonderful team of people, in both elected and non-elected capacities, putting forth tremendous efforts for the betterment of our profession and Association. I am proud to be a small part of it! golf events at the discretion of the Arrangements Committee, while still affording priority registration to members. The motion passed.

• The following new members were presented for approval and welcomed to MAGCS:

Justin Barker.....Class C Evanston Golf Club

- Chris BordeleauClass C North Shore Country Club
- Paul WitteClass E Earth Works Natural Organic Products
- Brett Parcher.....Class C Orchard Valley Golf Club
- Eric Gakstatter.....Class E Discovery Management Group

Paul was right in saying, "It's all about the people," and I say, "It's the people who make the difference and our Association special."



- On behalf of the Environmental Committee, Gary Hearn gladly reported that more than 15 clubs participated in the Bird Watching Open with Olympia Fields Country Club taking top honors with 94 species of birds identified.
- Fred Behnke reported that more than 30 applications had been received for the executive director position. The executive members of the MAGCS and ITF will interview and select a candidate, tentatively by September 1, 2003.
- The next meeting is scheduled for August 5, 2003, at 10:00 a.m. at Bartlett Hills.

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golf course, which leads to an increase of nutrition of the grounds and its surroundings. With increased environment health comes increased wildlife. The areas of improved ecological health help to attract animals, and additional wildlife takes up residency in the surrounding area. This will happen because of increased vegetational nutrients supplied by the improved plant life. Some tend to think that chemical runoff from pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers would contaminate surrounding waterways and soils, but dense grass has been shown to be one of the best biological filters, consequently decreasing contaminant runoff to surrounding areas. The area of high-density grass may also help to filter out many other chemicals from agriculture or industry, which would actually clean areas of surrounding water. Green grass also supplies a great percentage of the oxygen necessary for aerobic life. The healthier a superintendent can make a golf course, the more oxygen the golf course can supply. Today's golf course superintendent is a guardian of the environment, not a destroyer. They increase vegetation and increase wildlife in the area, help filter out chemicals from run-off and help generate a significant amount of oxygen.

